

CONNECTICUT FIRSTS

- 1639 -- first constitution adopted, establishing representative government
- 1647 -- first person to be hanged as a witch in America; Else Young in Hartford
- 1656 -- first municipal public library in America, a bequest to the "towne of New Haven"
- 1670 -- first survey for the first turnpike in America, between Norwich and New London
- 1764 -- country's oldest newspaper, "The Hartford Courant" published since October 29, 1764
- 1775 -- first submarine
- 1783 -- first published black poet, Jupiter Hammond of Hartford
- 1784 -- first law school in America, Litchfield Law School
Graduates include John C. Calhoun, Aaron Burr, Horace Mann,
Oliver Wolcott, Jr. and Noah Webster
- 1794 -- first formal printed insurance policy ever issued was issued in
Hartford by the Hartford Fire Insurance Company
- 1794 -- first cotton gin, Eli Whitney of New Haven patented this invention
- 1796 -- oldest State House in America, built after the ratification of the U. S. Constitution
- 1803 -- first town library, tax-supported and organized in Salisbury
- 1806 -- first factory town in America, planned and established in Seymour
- 1806 -- first dictionary in America, published by Noah Webster, born in West Hartford
- 1808 -- first movable parts mass production in use, making clocks
- 1819 -- first industrial training school, established by Josiah Holbrook in Derby
- 1836 -- first revolver
- 1843 -- first typewriter
- 1844 -- first use of anesthesia in dentistry
- 1846 -- first sewing machine, Elias Howe procured a patent for the first practical sewing machine in 1846
- 1853 -- first ice-making machine
- 1858 -- first can opener
- 1861 -- first Ph.D. Degree, awarded in Philosophy by Yale University
- 1868 -- first tape measure
- 1877 -- first telephone exchange, established in New Haven
- 1878 -- first pay phone
- 1892 -- first collapsible toothpaste tube
- 1895 -- first hamburger, served at Louie's Lunch in New Haven
- 1908 -- first lollipop
- 1920 -- first Frisbee, Yale students discovered empty pie plates from Mrs. Frisbie Pies
in Bridgeport could be sailed across the New Haven Green
- 1933 -- first vacuum cleaner
- 1939 -- first FM radio station, WDRC-FM began broadcasting in Hartford
- 1939 -- first helicopter, Igor Sikorsky designed the first successful helicopter in the Western Hemisphere
- 1948 -- first color television
- 1954 -- first nuclear submarine, launched in New London
- 1956 -- first Wiffle Ball was invented in Shelton by David Mullany
- 1975 -- first Woman Governor, Ella Tambussi Grasso became the first woman in America to
be elected to the office of governor without following her husband.
- 1982 -- first artificial heart, Dr. Robert K. Jarvik, a Stamford native, invented the world's first artificial
Heart



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